

Applicants : Ron S. Israeli, et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 08/403,803
Filed : March 17, 1995
Page 3

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of which gene is directly associated with a defined pathological effect within a multicellular organism, thereby abrogating mitogen response due to transferrin.--

Please add new claims 90-92 as follows:

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--90. (New) A method of detecting micrometastatic tumor cells of a subject, comprising performing polymerase chain reaction (PCR) on tissue, blood fluid, or cells of the subject using primers that hybridize with the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, thereby detecting micrometastatic tumor cells of the subject.--

--91. (New) A method of detecting a nucleic acid molecule encoding a prostate specific membrane antigen comprising performing polymerase chain reaction (PCR) on a mammalian tissue or cell using primers that hybridize with the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, thereby detecting a nucleic acid molecule encoding a prostate specific membrane antigen.--

--92. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is DNA, RNA or cDNA.--

REMARKS

The subject application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 08/403,803, filed March 17, 1995, and a continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/US93/10624, filed November 5, 1993; which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial 07/973,337, filed November 5, 1992.

The parent application U.S. Serial No. 08/403,803, filed March 17, 1995 is still pending. Thus, the parent application is

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Applicants : Ron S. Israeli, et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 08/403,803
Filed : March 17, 1995
Page 4

pending today and the subject Continuation application is copending therewith for purposes of 35 U.S.C. §120.

Applicants have hereinabove cancelled claim 78 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a later filed continuation or a divisional application. Further, applicants have hereinabove amended claims 59, 77, 79 and 84, and added new claims 90-92. Accordingly, claims 1-77 and 79-92 are pending in the subject application.

Support for claim 77 may be found inter alia in the specification as follows: page 37, lines 5-9; page 66, line 5-35; and Figures 11, and 17A-17C. Support for claims 90 - 92 may be found inter alia in the specification as follows: page 20, lines 4-11; page 39, line 26 - page 40, line 2; page 86, line 7 - page 87, line 16; page 91, lines 5-32 and SEQ ID NO's 1 and 2. Applicants have amended claims 59, 79, and 84 to correct their dependencies. Applicants maintain that these amendments to the specification and claims do not raise an issue of new matter and accordingly request that the amendments be entered.

Applicants maintain that the claims now pending in the subject application define patentable subject matter. Applicants earnestly solicits favorable action on the merits and allowance of claims 1-76 and 79-92, which are now pending.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

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Applicants : Ron S. Israeli, et al.
U.S. Serial No.: 08/403,803
Filed : March 17, 1995
Page 5

No fee, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fee is necessary, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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